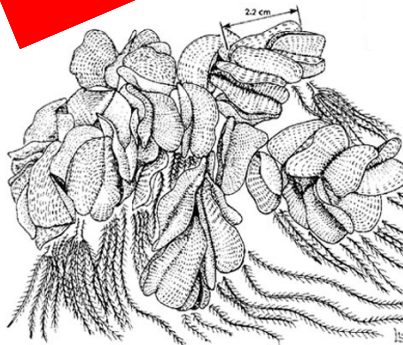


WANTED

Giant Salvinia Call 286-4616



Drawing from University of Florida,
Aquatic, Wetland, & Invasive Plants.



Photo from Olympic Co-ordination
Authority - Ecology Programs, Australia.



Photo from
North Carolina
State University.

What is it?

- Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*) is an aquatic fern from South America that is invading Hawai'i.
- The oblong floating leaves are 1/2 to 1 1/2 inches long.
- Young plants have smaller leaves that lie flat on the water surface.
- Mature plants have dense, upright leaves and form dense mats.
- Hairs on the leaf surface keep the plants floating.
- Underwater root-like leaves may hide stalks with small round spore cases.



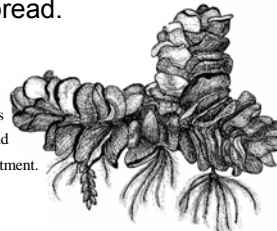
Wahiawa Public Fishing Area.

Why is it a problem in Hawaii?

- It spreads quickly by fragments in fresh water.
- Salvinia can cover a pond's surface within days blocking light and oxygen for other species.
- Dense mats of salvinia block boats and birds from moving through the water and can clog waterways and water intake structures.
- Salvinia mats can grow from one tiny piece by doubling their bulk in days.

What can you do?

- Never move or grow giant salvinia.
- If you have giant salvinia, call to report the location, control it on your property, or request help.
- If you see giant salvinia, call OISC.
- Check your equipment after visiting infested areas to make sure that small pieces are not hitch-hiking.
- Nurseries and private land owners are asked to control this plant by removing it from their ponds so that it is not spread.



Drawing from
Robert Howells
Texas Parks and
Wildlife Department.

What is being done?

- The Department of Land and Natural Resources -Aquatic Resources Division, City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Department of Transportation, Department of Health and the US Army Corps of Engineers are working cooperatively to removing this plant from Lake Wilson in using heavy equipment, floating booms, and herbicides.
- Other land managers on Oahu are looking for this plant and are removing it immediately.
- OISC is assisting by providing maps, information and removal assistance to landowners.

Together we can protect our islands!

